

Appl. No. 10/700,194  
Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2005



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Randy E. Benway et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/700,194  
Conf. No.: 3952  
Filed: November 3, 2003  
Title: INTERCHANGEABLE MULCHING/DISCHARGE MOWING DECK  
Art Unit: 3671  
Examiner: Arpad F. Kovacs  
Docket No.: 114154-050

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2005. The Office Action issued a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, stating that Applicants are required to elect one of the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 1-16  
Group II: Claims 17-20  
Group III: Claims 21-24  
Group IV: Claims 31-34  
Group V: Claims 35-38

Applicants hereby elect Group II, Claims 17-20, without traverse, for examination on the merits. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY 

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Dated: April 22, 2005